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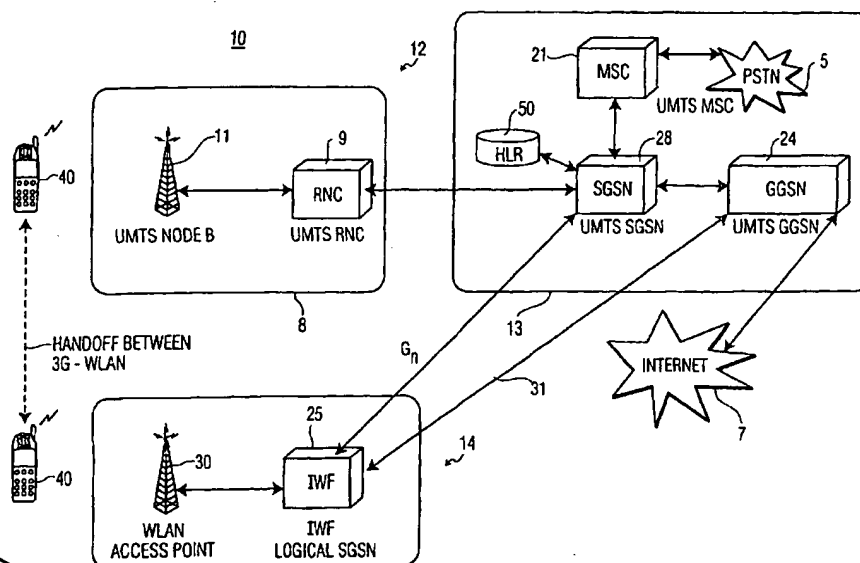
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(54) Title: WLAN AS A LOGICAL SUPPORT NODE (SGSN) FOR INTERWORKING BETWEEN THE WLAN AND A MOBILE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM



(57) Abstract: An interface (28) for connecting networks includes an interworking function provided between a wireless local area network (WLAN) (8, 14) and a Public Mobile Land Network (PLMN) (13) to provide communication interactions between the PLMN (13) and the WLAN (8, 14). The interworking function includes a dual-protocol stack, which interfaces the WLAN protocols and PLMN protocols to provide seamless communications between the WLAN (8, 14) and the PLMN (13) such that an increase in available service bandwidth provided for users of the PLMN is maintained.

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